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Elizabeth Miller
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July 25, 2001
Date

ATTY DOCKET NO. 10004003-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Peter G. Webb

Group Art Unit: 1743

Serial No.: 09/628,470

Examiner: Not yet known Gordon

Filed: July 31, 2000

Title: ARRAY FABRICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as shown in the attached Appendix A. Below is a clean copy of the claims incorporating all of the amendments.

1. A method of fabricating a chemical array using:
 - a head system with multiple groups of drop dispensers which move in unison, each group having multiple dispensers;
 - a transport system to move the head system with respect to a substrate with different dispensers of the groups following respective paths;
 - a processor to dispense droplets from dispensers during operation of the transport system, in a pattern along a selected path for each group so as to form the array;
- the method comprising:
 - a) identifying an error in one or more dispensers;
 - b) when a dispenser of a first group is in error, then moving a second dispenser of each group along the selected path for its group while dispensing droplets from at least the second dispenser of the first group in at least part of the pattern for the selected path of the first group.

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